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dilemma—he knew not what to do. He wished his country well, but he loved his child. At length, however, the crisis terminated, and he resolved to sink the father in the prince. Palm Sunday again came round, and the reluctant bride again went to the church of the Three Saints in procession, and prayed for a miracle to come to her assistance. As she reached the church, she was shocked by seeing those horrid Cossacks again—the very men that had slain the loved one of her heart. Timush advanced from amongst them, and presented the branch he held to the princess, who was considered a patriotic, broken-hearted victim, and who did not dare to raise her eyes from the ground. He said,

“I have won thee, and I claim thy hand.”

It was the voice of Coributh, of her brave, and beautiful, and lost one. She looked up and saw, instead of a fierce and savage Cossack, the handsome youth on whom she had bestowed her heart a year ago, who, in the humble guise of a merchant, had made so lasting an impression upon her susceptible bosom.

“You are Coributh,” she exclaimed.

“I am Timush,” was the reply.

Timush or Coributh, she married him. It seemed that all along it was with Timush she had been in love. Coributh she had never known, not even when he was at her father's court; for he had kept his name secret, in the hope that he would soon return victorious in his real character. The story goes on to say, that when the remains of the Polish prince lay in state before interment, and the features of Argyrius were recognised, she wept for her friend thus suddenly cut down, but less bitterly than she had done for her lover. It is to be hoped that she had no reason to regret his loss. It is to be hoped that Timush made her a good Cossack husband, and that she made him a good wife. If Moldavia had had its Homer, the world would have been familiar with her charms. As it is, her name has long been buried in the forgotten past. All that we know of her is, that she was beautiful; and that for that beauty men fought and died. Nor is it necessary that we know more; imagination will do all the rest.

THE HON. FRANCIS HINCKS,

PRIME MINISTER OF CANADA.

THIS gentleman, to whose enlightened mind and patriotic spirit Canada is so deeply indebted, is the fifth and youngest son of Dr. Hincks, of the family of Hincks, of Breckenbrough, in Yorkshire, which traces its origin to William Hincks, an alderman of Chester, in 1641. Dr. Hincks, who settled in Cork in 1791, was an active member of the various benevolent societies in that city. He was minister of the Princes-street Presbyterian Congregation, and secretary of the Cork Institution; and was also distinguished for his success in the instruction of youth, several educational works that he published having had a large circulation, and many of his pupils having risen to eminence in their respective professions. In addition to the ordinary branches of school education, he gave lectures on natural philosophy, chemistry, and natural history, which were open to others as well as his immediate pupils, and which led to the establishment of the Cork Institution, of which he may be regarded as the founder. In January, 1815, he removed to Fermoy, in consequence of obtaining the mastership of the classical school there, founded by John Anderson, Esq.; and in July, 1821, to Belfast, having been elected head classical master and professor of Hebrew in the Royal Institution of that city.

Edward, the eldest son of Dr. Hincks, obtained a fellowship in Trinity College, Dublin, in 1813, and is now rector of Killyleagh, a college living, which was formerly of considerable value. He is the author of several papers in the Transactions of the Royal Irish Academy, on subjects connected with Egyptian, Persian, and Assyrian archæology. In the two latter his discoveries have attracted much attention, in connexion with those of Colonel Rawlinson, the same results having, in several instances, been obtained almost simultaneously, by the one at Killyleagh, and by the other at Bagdad. He was the first to determine the forms and values of the Assyrian numerals, from an examination of ancient inscriptions at Van, an account of which was published in the Journal of the Asiatic Society.

The second son, William, is distinguished as a naturalist; he was the first professor of natural history in Queen's College, Cork, and has lately obtained a similar appointment in Toronto, Upper Canada. The third son, Thomas, has been curate of Belfast, and is the prebendary of Cairne Castle; he has the character of being one of the most active and efficient clergymen of the established church in Ireland.

Francis, the subject of the present notice, commenced his education under his father, at Fermoy, and continued it in the classical and mathematical school of the Belfast Institution, then presided over by Dr. James Thomson, afterwards

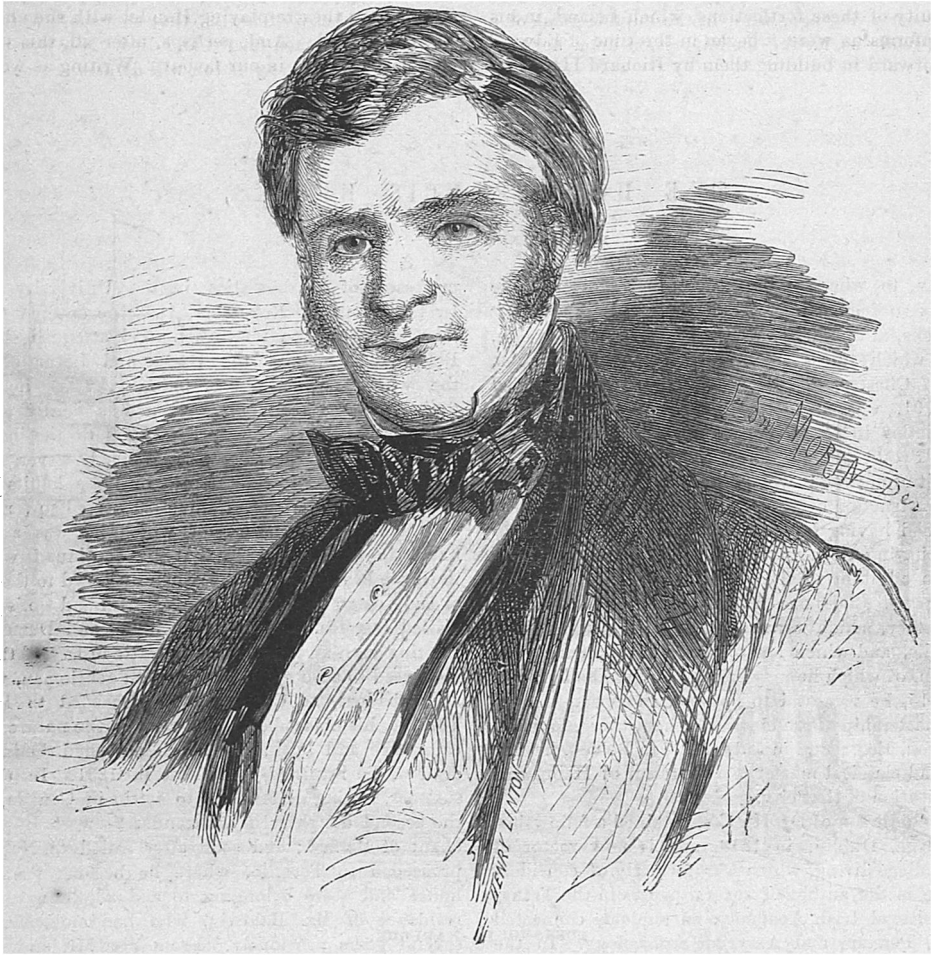
professor, of mathematics in the University of Glasgow. In the month of November, 1822, he entered the collegiate department of the institution, and attended the Logic and Belles Lettres, and the Greek and Latin classes during the winter session. But in May, 1823, he expressed a desire to be a merchant, and it was finally arranged that he should be articled for five years to the house of John Martin and Co., previously to which, however, he had three or four months' initiation into business habits in the office of his father's friend, Samuel Bruce, Esq., notary public and agent. The period for which he was articled terminated in October, 1828, but he continued with the firm until the beginning of 1830, when he sailed to the West Indies as supercargo of one of Messrs. Martin and Co.'s vessels. He visited Jamaica, Barbadoes, Trinidad, and Demerara, but not meeting with an inducement to settle in any of these colonies, he agreed to accompany a Canadian gentleman, whom he met at Barbadoes, to Canada, and proceeded to Montreal and Toronto, his object being to ascertain the nature of Canadian commerce and business. Having gleaned the information he desired, he returned to Belfast in 1831. In the following summer, having determined to settle in Canada, he married the second daughter of Alexander Stewart, Esq., linen merchant of Belfast; and soon after sailed to New York, and proceeded to Toronto, where he became the tenant of a house and store belonging to and adjoining the office and residence of Mr. Baldwin, who had emigrated from Cork several years previously. From him Mr. and Mrs. Hincks and their youthful family received attentions and services, of which Mr. Hincks often speaks with grateful recollection. He soon obtained a high reputation for knowledge of business, and when Mr. Mackenzie attacked Mr. Merritt and others, respecting the Welland canal, and obtained a parliamentary investigation, he was chosen, with another merchant, to examine the accounts. He was also appointed secretary to a Mutual Insurance Company, and cashier to a new Banking Company.

On the appointment of Lord Durham to the government of Canada, Mr. Hincks commenced the *Examiner* newspaper, in the editorship of which he displayed such remarkable vigour and talent, that he was invited to become a candidate for the representation of the county of Oxford in the first parliament held after the union of the Upper and Lower provinces. The election was held in March, 1841, when Mr. Hincks was returned by a majority of thirty-one over his opponent, a gentleman named Carroll. Shortly after his election, he was appointed by Sir Charles Bagot, Inspector-General of Finances, and was obliged in consequence to vacate his seat, and

return for re-election. He was opposed by John Armstrong, Esq., who abandoned the contest at noon on the third day, Mr. Hincks having a majority of 218. When Lord Metcalfe dissolved the Canadian parliament in 1844, Mr. Hincks was defeated, his opponents being Robert Riddell, Esq., who was returned by a majority of twenty over Mr. Hincks, and the Hon. Thomas Parke, who did not go to the poll. In 1848, however, he was again elected by the large majority of 335 over his old opponent, Mr. Carroll. Having for the second time accepted the office of Inspector-General of Finances, under the administration of his first friend in Canada, he was re-elected without opposition.

Upon the reconstruction of the ministry, consequent on the retirement of Mr. Baldwin, owing to his impaired health, Mr. Hincks was, through the strong expression

nine over his opponent, John G. Vansittart, Esq. Mr. Shenston, clerk and census commissioner of the county of Oxford, has, in his "Oxford Gazetteer," borne powerful testimony to the value of Mr. Hincks's patriotic and praiseworthy exertions. In dedicating his useful work to that gentleman, he says:—"I find that the first municipal act, giving to the people great powers; the amendment of it, whereby these powers were greatly increased; the establishment of township councils; the new election law, whereby a poll is opened in each township; the amendment to the election act, whereby sheriffs are *ex-officio* returning officers, and township clerks *ex-officio* deputy returning officers; the division court act; the new assessment act, the new jury act, the new post-office act, and cheap postage, all of them date their existence from the time of your first election to represent this



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of public opinion, named prime-minister by the Governor-General; and he has since continued to fill that post with distinguished honour, and with the confidence and respect of all the good men of every political denomination in Canada. Nor is this a higher meed than he deserves; for it is mainly to his financial ability, his enlarged views as a politician, his great practical knowledge of what is conducive to the material interests of Canada, and his tact and experience as a parliamentary debater, that the province occupies its present position, and has before it the brilliant prospects that are constantly opening up.

When Mr. Hincks visited England in 1852, he had the honour of being presented to the Queen, who received him with much courtesy.

On his return to Canada, he was elected to represent the county of Oxford for the fifth time, by a majority of seventy-

county, and in all of them your masterly hand is unmistakably discerned. In addition to these inestimable and invaluable blessings, enjoyed, in common with us of this county, by the whole province, I may add that, although the Great Western Railroad and the London and Hamilton Plank and Gravel Road had long been in contemplation, and repeated unsuccessful attempts had been made to forward them before your election, it required your information, energy, and perseverance to complete the one, and place the other in its present prosperous and promising condition." It was he, too, who first appreciated the necessity of a great system of railways throughout the province; and it is to him that the credit of the Grand Trunk Railway of Canada, in its present extended proportions, is due. Happy, indeed, would every colony of Britain be, if its councils were directed by a minister as patriotic and as enlightened as Francis Hincks!